

Course outline

AI Governance, Risk and Oversight



**Governance
Academy**

AI Governance, Risk and Oversight – course details

Mode of study	Online, on-demand	Virtual	Face-to-Face
Method of study	Independent, self-paced online study	Facilitated, within a virtual setting	Facilitated, in-person
Time commitment	6 hours of flexible online study including completion of assessments.	A 3.5 hour facilitated session followed by 2.5 hours of online study including completion of assessments.	
Access period	<p>A short course and aligned assessments must be completed within the entitlement period provided. Entitlement periods apply as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any stand-alone short course registration - 30 days • Certificate registration (3 short courses bundled) - 90 days 		
Course prerequisites	Short courses are open entry. There is no prerequisite study.		
Assessment	<p>A short course is assessed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A final quiz (multiple choice, achieve 75% to pass, unlimited attempts). • A short case study written response (suggested answers are revealed for reflection). • Knowledge checks and interactive AI conversations are included as you progress through the course material (these are not assessed). • See the Assessment Rules for further information. 		
CPD Hours	6 CPD Hours		

Course description

AI governance is the application of established governance principles and accountability frameworks to the acquisition, deployment and oversight of AI systems within an organisation. The duties of care, diligence, and good faith that directors owe under the [Corporations Act 2001 \(Cth\)](#), the risk oversight obligations set out in the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, and the accountability and compliance frameworks that governance professionals support every day apply to AI just as they apply to every other material organisational activity. What AI changes is not the principles. It changes the conditions under which those principles must be applied — the opacity of AI outputs, the speed and scale at which AI operates, the diffusion of accountability when AI functions as an effective decision-maker, and the gap between what Australian law requires and what AI-specific regulation has yet to provide.

This course examines that gap and equips governance professionals to work within it. It is a governance course, not a technology course. It is designed for experienced governance professionals who understand boards, accountability and risk, and who need to apply that expertise to AI.

The aim of this course is to examine how established governance principles, directors' duties, and risk oversight frameworks apply to AI, and to develop the capability of governance professionals to support informed, accountable, and defensible board-level oversight of AI where automated systems influence organisational decisions, risk, and stakeholder outcomes within Australian organisations.

Learning objectives

- Examine the board's role and accountability in relation to artificial intelligence, including how directors' duties of care, diligence and good faith apply when AI systems materially affect organisational decisions, risk exposure or stakeholder outcomes.
- Identify the categories of risk introduced by AI at a governance level, including strategic, ethical, operational, regulatory and reputational risks, and apply existing risk governance frameworks to assess how AI-specific characteristics should be captured, documented and escalated within the organisation's risk management processes.
- Apply governance principles of accountability, transparency and integrity to the oversight of AI, including identifying the governance structures, policy instruments and reporting mechanisms that support defensible board oversight, and document and report findings in a form suitable for the governance professional's report to the board.
- Identify the indicators of AI bias and governance accountability failure and examine the structures boards need to have in place to satisfy themselves that AI systems operating within their organisations are performing fairly, within sanctioned parameters and consistently with the organisation's stated values.

Course structure

Section A – Governance Principles

- What is AI governance and why does it concern the board - governance practice, AI and the responsibilities of the governing body, why AI creates distinct governance challenges.
- Core principles and their application to AI - the application and extension of established governance principles and frameworks to AI, the limitations of this, embedding AI across the three interconnected dimensions of frameworks, structures, and tools.
- AI governance and oversight – accountability, transparency and explainability, integrity and ethical conduct, stewardship and long term value, application across organisational contexts.
- The Australian regulatory landscape – existing legal frameworks, evolving political frameworks, emerging or anticipated reform.

- Categories of AI risk for the governance professional - a structured view of the primary AI risk categories and their governance indicators.
- Agentic AI and board accountability – guidance for governance professionals for agentic AI which raises accountability questions that existing governance frameworks are ill-equipped to answer.
- AI bias and governance accountability – how AI bias arises, common sources of AI bias, the board’s responsibility, appropriate bias testing and monitoring processes, human review mechanisms, clear response plans for bias-related incidents.
- Practical scenarios – explore interactive governance scenarios using AI conversation tools in the Learning Management System.

Section B – Professional Practices

- Translating AI into policy – AI policy template, principles guiding policy, governance questions to resolve when drafting policy, the governance professional’s role in policy adoption.
- Preparing and maintaining governance artefacts – the quality of documentation to the board, preparing the AI board paper, maintaining the AI accountability register, minuting AI-related board discussion.
- Working with management – three disciplines that governance professionals should develop for professional practice.
- Practical scenarios – explore interactive governance scenarios using AI conversation tools in the Learning Management System.

Section C – Personal Thinking

The parallel for AI governance with the Robodebt Scheme is direct. An organisation that approves an AI use case without establishing its legal authority, without named accountability, and without a mechanism for escalating concerns about its operation has reproduced the structural conditions of Robodebt at whatever scale its AI system operates.

The automated income-matching process was the mechanism by which harm was delivered at scale, but the failures were governance failures - failures of legal authority, accountability, transparency, and ethical conduct. Those failures have direct relevance to how governance professionals must approach AI governance today.

Case study: The Robodebt Scheme

Governance capabilities

Governance Institute short courses address capabilities at the emerging level of our Governance Capability Framework, offering practical learning supported by professional qualifications and experience.

Governance professionals at the emerging level are continuing to learn to support performance in their role. They seek guidance and support on a case-by-case basis from peers and line managers. As they develop their knowledge through study and practice, they increasingly work autonomously and gain confidence in their abilities. As their knowledge

increases, they may take the lead on specific initiatives and, in larger teams, may have some responsibility for the activities of others.

Capabilities addressed in this course

- Risk Governance
- Accountability & Compliance
- Legislation & Policy
- Secretarial Practice
- Integrity & Ethics
- Reflection & Learning

Course author

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How will my achievement be recognised?

A [My eQuals](#) digital badge is awarded by the Governance Institute of Australia upon successful completion of the course and assessments.

This badge can be shared across your online platforms.



Certificate graduates (three short courses bundled) become eligible for Affiliated Membership of Governance Institute of Australia.